

## **APPENDIX G: Low Performing Institutions**

The Vermont State Board of Education adopted revised criteria on June 23, 2006 in order to identify and assist low-performing programs of teacher preparation in compliance with HEA Title II, Section 208(a). These criteria, if not met, will result in a program being identified as “low performing:”

### **1) PROGRAM COMPLETERS’ ACADEMIC BACKGROUND**

- A. Program Completers’ licensure portfolios meet all performance standards.
- B. The majority of program completers (>80%) in the cohort meets state passing scores on the Praxis I.
- C. The majority of program completers (>60%) in the cohort meets state passing scores on any required Praxis II tests.
- D. All candidates for licensure as secondary teachers have a major in their endorsement area.
- E. All program completers have an overall average of B or better in the major of their endorsement area and in student teaching.

### **2) PROGRAMS’ STATE APPROVAL STATUS**

- A. The program shows progress towards meeting the Results-Oriented Program Approval (ROPA) standards and the goals of its ROPA Five-Year Plan at the time of its full-program review.
- B) Programs have addressed the concerns and stipulations of the ROPA review team as indicated in the Visiting Team Report in the Two-Year Report following a full-program review.

The necessary data for this assessment is generated by the state's Title II Institutional Reports (e.g., program completer test scores) or as part of the revised Results-Oriented Program Approval process.

According to the Vermont plan for this effort, the Department of Education, in collaboration with the VSBPE, identifies any program that does not meet the criteria. Such a program is identified as "at risk." The Department will work with "at risk" institutions to develop a Technical Assistance Plan that specifies goals and action steps for improvement of the "at risk" program. The Department will provide support to assist the program in meeting its goals.

The VSBPE will monitor the progress of the institution and program and determine on an annual basis whether to continue the program's "at risk" designation. The maximum number of years a program can be designated "at risk" is three years. After three years the VSBPE will designate the program as "low performing" and withdraw state approval.